



## Information assurance enhanced with “IDEA” process

by *Fran Crumb, Information Directorate*

ROME, N.Y. — The Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate has awarded a \$1.1 million contract to Harris Corp., Government Communications Systems Division, Melbourne, Fla., for research to enhance information assurance.

The one-year agreement, “Integrated Design Environment for Assurance (IDEA),” is funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency of Arlington, Va.

“Capabilities resulting from the IDEA program will enable the integration of security analysis tools. A system designer/analyst will be able to select a set of security analysis tools, link them to system data as well as other security tools, initiate and monitor tool execution, and synergistically merge

the results for presentation or further analysis,” said Frank S. Lamonica, program manager in the directorate’s Information Technology division. “IDEA facilitates the process of system design evolution by providing important security assessment information which can be used to implement high assurance enhancements.”

Information Assurance is regarded as crucial to Department of Defense efforts to counter cyber aggression and meet the challenges of the information age. A broad range of potential threats exists to the military’s information infrastructure and its ability to maintain information superiority in future conflicts. @